

## Infantile Paralysis Germ Found, But a Remedy For Disease Still Missing

Dr. Flexner, First to Isolate Bacilli, Says Cleanliness is Best Precaution.

All medical science in the twentieth century discloses an antibiotic for infantile paralysis. This is the question millions of mothers throughout the country are asking themselves today as they read news stories of the unanticipated progress of the disease in New York City. The greatest medical minds in the country are asking the same question while experimenting in their laboratories. Up at the Rockefeller Institute pathologists are bending every effort these days to find a cure. Dr. George Flexner and his associates, Dr. M. L. Ames, are out of the city for the summer. Both have made a profound study of the disease, and in 1914 Dr. Flexner announced that he had succeeded in cultivating and isolating the germ of poliomyelitis, the medical term for infantile paralysis, which was accounted at that time to be an extraordinary advance in the knowledge of the disease. But though he was able to isolate and naming the germ so that it became visible under a high-powered microscope, neither Dr. Flexner nor other eminent pathologists have been able to discover an anti-toxin.

### KNOWLEDGE OF THE DISEASE COMES SLOWLY.

Medical science terms the "first good clinical account of acute poliomyelitis" in 1890. In 1906 experts were able to contribute more facts to the growing knowledge of the disease, and two years later a considerable advance was made by the discovery, almost simultaneously, in Vienna, Paris and New York of a method of producing the disease artificially.

But this is the limit to which medical science so far has been able to go. Increasing experiments have been made in all the leading universities of this country and Europe, but none has produced an anti-toxin. Over-crowded city districts, unhealthy conditions of living, whether in the open or in a tenement or the common dormitory, have been the principal breeding sources of the disease, according to the medical records of all countries.

There are two kinds of this disease recognized by medical science, the acute and the abortive. And in both cases there is no communication. The abortive is the least dangerous to life where there is any resistance. It usually comes by infection, and rarely reaches the paralytic stage. It is acute infantile paralysis.

The real menace to child life, however, is the acute form, which by no means is an inevitable result of the disease.

Wickham shows that of a total of 520 cases under observation, 44 per cent recovered. At a later day the Massachusetts Board of Health reported only 16.7 per cent recovered, following an epidemic in Boston.

So far this antiseptic agent has not been converted into a workable remedy. Dr. Flexner, however, before going into the country on his annual vacation, left behind some good advice for parents as a means of prevention, which *The Evening World* is able to present to-day.

### WHERE THE DANGER OF INFECTION IS ENCOUNTERED.

"The virus of poliomyelitis," says Dr. Flexner, "exists in the secretions of the nose and throat and in the discharge from the intestine. Hence the mode of spread may be as follows:

"First, kissing, coughing, sneezing, which carry the secretions of the nose and throat from one person who may be infected to other persons who may not be. Since the disease attacks by preference young children and infants whose nasal and buccal (mouth) secretions are wiped away by the mother or nurse, the fingers of these persons readily become contaminated. The care of other children by persons with contaminated fingers may, therefore, lead to the conveying of the infectious micro-organism indirectly from the sick to the healthy."

Second, since the discharges from the bowels carry the infectious micro-organism, they are also potential sources of infection. From that source the dissemination can be made in two principal ways: (a) by means of the soiled hands of parents or nurses caring for afflicted ones, and (b) by means of house flies, which become grossly contaminated so that by lighting on food they infect it, or upon the mouth or nose of healthy persons, they may carry the infection directly to them. Flies also collect about the mouth and nose of persons ill of poliomyelitis unless protected by screens. These flies also become contaminated and may serve to spread the infection. The infectious agent enters the body chiefly, if not exclusively, through the mucous membranes of the nose and throat."

## BOLD PLOT TO ESCAPE FROM TOMBS IS FOILED BY PRISON OFFICIALS

(Continued from First Page)

Warden in an investigation. The first thing they found was a row of half a dozen oil and gasoline barrels standing high on wooden horses next to the Leonard Street wall of the prison yard. It would have been easy for a man standing on top of a barrel to throw a rope's end over the wall and out into the street.

After a brief search they became convinced Windler and Benson were the men plotting to get away. Windler occupied a cell on the ground floor of the Tombs. He is twenty-four years old, a chauffeur, and gave his address as No. 420 West Forty-eighth Street when he was arrested April 25 last, accused of robbing the mails. Thomas Benson, his brother-in-law, who said he was a bricklayer, was arrested April 21, accused of taking part in the same robbery. He lived at No. 54 West Forty-sixth Street. Because of his relations with Windler, he was put as far away as possible, in cell No. 729, on the seventh tier of the prison.

### PRISONER HAD SAWED THROUGH BAR OF CELL.

Both of these men were watched with extra care, but it was thought best to give them plenty of play so that if they were really trying to get out they would commit themselves. Extra guards were posted so that if they did move they could be stopped at once. But late last evening a keeper picked up a piece of a fine steel hack-saw in the corridor outside of Windler's cell. He took it to Warden Hanley. He and Deputy Commissioner Kelly went to the cell and had Windler transferred to another tier. They tried the bars and soon found the bar next to the lock of the cell door had been sawed through and the crack filled in with steel filings and soft bread crumbs. Whenever Windler was ready he could twist off the bar, stick out his hand

and reach the lock on the outside of the door.

Hidden in the hollows in the boxes scattered about the cell were seven wooden keys, which had been fastened in case ignition of the keys of the doors at the different tiers from the top to the ground. The workmen in these boxes were instructed not to touch anything. When one of the original keys he sought was found in the

box, Windler was taken from his cell and on the top tier. There the Warden found a steel hook-and-eye rigged on a wooden handle hidden under the matress of the old wooden bed. This was the tool of the thief.

**HAD WOVEN A ROPE OUT OF STRIPS OF SHEETS.**

Tucked away in the straw pillow of the bed was a strong rope made of strips of sheeting. This must have been the result of at least a month of stealthy labor. No sheet has ever been taken from the cells on the seventh tier, but now and then Benson and Windler have torn off a strip here and there. To make climbing easier Benson had made holes about two feet apart in the wall.

No guard was sent to either prison until after what had been found. At noon, when it was understood the signal was to be given, Warden Hanley and Mr. Kelly posted armed men in doorways near the Leonard Street entrance of the prison, ready to shoot any man who might attempt to escape.

They then went up into the kitchen on the seventh tier of the new prison, struck a match and held it at the western window. Then the two went back to the ground floor. But there was no move in the street. It hardly seemed possible any warning could have got out of the Tombs, but no automobile came near the prison wall.

Examination of Windler and Benson lasting several hours to-day was futile so far as any confession from the two prisoners was concerned. Warden Hanley said the pair would not say anything to incriminate. Nor would they confess to a single detail of the plot. The officials are endeavoring to locate the co-conspirators who are believed to have smuggled the materials into the Tombs on visiting day.

The robbery for which Windler and Benson are charged took place Tuesday night, the night of Feb. 12. Last Windler had been a chauffeur on United States mail wagons, and when he lost his job, it is charged, he kept his key or had a duplicate. He knew that on cold nights the chauffeurs went into the ferryboat cabin to keep warm. Undeterred, he and his gang, who still drove a wagon and mail wagon, unhooked the door, took four registered pouches and drove off when the ferryboat docked. In the bags were stocks and bonds worth \$166,000 and jewels worth \$600.

Windler is charged, tried to pawn four bags of diamonds April 21 in shop at One Hundred and Sixty-first Street and Third Avenue Detective Sergeant Joseph Reilly followed him to three other shops and arrested him. The stones were later identified as part of the loot of the mail sacks.

United States Postal Inspector Louis Jacobs, hoping to get a clue from the robbers, opened up his lower Broadway and pretended to come in odd lots of stock. To him came Windler with Edward J. Quigley, who, it is alleged, sought to dispose of \$500,000 worth of bonds. They did not bring the securities with them, so Jacobs, to get them with the bonds in his hands, proposed they go to Baltimore, where they could be safe from interference. They agreed, and were arrested by United States Post Office Inspectors as they were leaving the B. & O. station, charged with being confidence men. The stocks and bonds were in a bag Quigley carried, it is said.

"I told him I had better return to Windler, 'that we'd never have luck dealing with that guy,' pointing to Jacobs.

Benson, Windler and Quigley were indicted, accused of robbing the mails, and were held in \$20,000 bail each. They may, if convicted, be sent to prison for as much as forty years apiece. The police say \$10,000 of the loot is still hidden.

Quigley was to be brought from Baltimore to the Tombs to-day and Warden Hanley is convinced the attempt to escape would have been made Sunday night. At that time the atmosphere in the prison is practically deserted. The Warden says he has learned from other prisoners that it was part of the plan that any keeper who tried to interfere with the escape was to be "crooked."

Further search revealed two more saws fastened with soap to the wood-work of Benson's cot.

## ROCKEFELLER TO LIVE 100 YEARS, SAYS DOCTOR

H. F. Biggar, Who Watches Oil Magnate's Health, Makes Prediction on His 77th Birthday.

CLEVELAND, July 8.—John D. Rockefeller celebrated his seventy-seventh birthday at his Forest Hill estate to-day by playing a foursome at golf. Rockefeller, tanned, clear-eyed and vigorous, is in the best of health. Dr. H. F. Biggar, his physician for twenty-five years and one of the golf party to-day, claims that Rockefeller will live to be a centenarian. These are the rules which John D. has followed for a quarter of a century to keep in good health:

"Never worry; don't acquire overweight; drink sufficient water between meals to have clear eyes and a pink skin; exercise daily; go to bed early, sleep after supper; sunbathes does one more good than sleep after midnight."

### BRITONS MUST PAY OWN WAY

Government Will Not Provide Passage for Reservists from America.

The British War Office does not intend at present to enforce the Military Service Act, by calling to the colors all British subjects between the ages of eighteen and forty-one, now in other countries. It was announced to-day by the British Consul General.

Any British subject returning to Great Britain for service must do so at his own risk and expense, and cannot be granted passage or other assistance by British officials for the purpose of enabling them to return.

### THREE KILLED ON WAY TO READING.

READING, Pa., July 8.—Three elderly men on their way to a family reunion were killed at Hainesburg near here yesterday when an automobile in which they were riding was struck by a Reading Railway train. Four other persons in the automobile escaped injuries. The victims were John Miller, William R. Noll and Peter Rohrbach.

## "Votes for Hughes!" Is Women's New Cry; They Prove They're No Pikers in Politics, For They Are to Give Candidate \$100,000



Well Known Women Organize to Help Elect Man They Believe Will Aid Them in Winning Suffrage Hughes Greets Fair Supporters at Mrs. Harry Payne Whitney's Home.

### By Marguerite Mooers Marshall.

Charles Evans Hughes doesn't look like a ladies' man, but—according to present returns—he does look like the ladies' candidate.

Of course, the Woman's Party and the Woman's Congressional Union are treading on the tail of Mr. Wilson's coat, because they don't agree with the Democratic view that Suffrage is a State's rights question. But that isn't all. Yesterday, at Mrs. Harry Payne Whitney's beautiful home in Roslyn, L. I., was organized what may prove to be the biggest political movement ever conducted by women, and its slogan is "Hughes—nobody else." Not even poor Mr. Fairbanks, the harmless, necessary Republican candidate for Vice President, is to be allowed to share in the woman-made Hughes boom.

The Women's National Committee of the Hughes Alliance is the rather unwieldy title adopted by the new political workers. And they are a remarkable group. Actively associated in their campaign—not merely lending names to it—are society women like Mrs. Whitney, Mrs. Cornelius Vanderbilt, Mrs. Orme Wilson Jr. and Mrs. Arthur Scott Burden. Such well known clubwomen as Mrs. William Grant Brown, Miss Florence Guernsey and Miss Helen Varick Boswell are also members of this committee of one hundred and thirty-three. On it too are Dr. Katharine H. Davis and Mrs. Henry Moskowitz, social workers.

### THEY FOLLOW THEIR LOST LEADER.

And last, but by no means least, of the most prominent Progressives are obediently playing the game of "follow my leader" and trotting weekly into the Republican fold. They are even consenting to be office-holders. Miss Frances A. Kellar is Chairman of the Hughes committee. Gifford Pinchot is Secretary and Mary Antin is one of the Vice Chairmen. The Treasurer, by the way, is Mrs. Charles Cary Rumsey, formerly Mrs. Mary Harriman.

"But I thought you were Progressive," I protested to one of these women—never mind which. "I was," she remarked calmly, "but since we can't have Roosevelt we must take the man he approves, the man who stands for Progressive principles—Mr. Hughes. It's the only logical thing to do."

And I hadn't the heart to quote to her Robert Browning's ringing invitation to the followers of a lost leader:

We shall march prospering—not that his path entices us—not from his fire; Decke will be done—while he boasts his quiet fame.

One last, more dismal, one more foot-dragger: Still holding on when the rest had gone. But his name, then round one lot and more.

One last, more dismal, one more foot-dragger: One more devilishness and sorrow for anguish. One more strong man, one more insult to it.

If one is a sincere Progressive, must one feel like that—even if one hasn't formulated it so splendidly?

### NO PIKERS THESE. WITH A \$100,000 FUND.

However, to return to the Hughes women, they are to raise the sum of \$100,000 for their campaign in the next four months. They already have collected \$25,000. (Proving that women are not going to be political pikers!) Among the contributors to the campaign fund, besides those whose names have been mentioned, are Myron T. Herrick, Mrs. Henry Clews, Douglas Robinson, Mrs. John Hays Hammond, Mrs. Lorillard Spencer, Mrs. Cabot Ward, Mrs. Lars Anderson, Mrs. Felix M. Warburg, Mrs. Theodore P. Shonts, Mrs. John D. Archbold, Mrs. Edward T. Stotesbury, Mrs. Willard Straight.

And what are they going to do? They will buy a plane.

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